

Office of the Governor

PO BOX 004
TRENTON, NJ 08625

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Jayne O'Connor
Laura Otterbourg
609-777-2600

RELEASE: October 8, 1999

Governor Christie Whitman Participates in Inauguration of The College of New Jersey President R. Barbara Gitenstein

New Jersey's first female governor shared today in the inauguration of the first female president of The College of New Jersey.

Indeed, Governor Christie Whitman addressed attendees at the official inauguration of Dr. R. Barbara Gitenstein as President of The College of New Jersey in Ewing, bringing greetings on behalf of the State of New Jersey and its eight million residents.

The College of New Jersey is a national success story: an educational institution that is consistently ranked among the best values in higher education and rated among the most outstanding regional universities for its academics. It also is ranked at the top of the charts in Division III for its athletics.

Although President Gitenstein assumed her current post in January 1999 as the school's 15th president, The College of New Jersey has a tradition of inaugurating its college president at the start of the academic year.

A copy of the Governor's speech is attached.

REMARKS OF GOVERNOR CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN
INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT BARBARA GITENSTEIN
THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1999

Thank you, Chairman Gladstone. I am proud to bring greetings on behalf of the State of New Jersey and our residents, 8 million strong.

It is a special honor, as the first female governor of the State of New Jersey, to share in the inauguration of the first female president of The College of New Jersey. Quite literally, as today's theme proclaims, the face of leadership is changing.

As President Gitenstein officially takes her post, she does so at a time of tremendous promise for The College of New Jersey and its fellow institutions of higher education in the Garden State.

President Gitenstein leads a college that has certainly made its mark. Consistently ranked among the best values in higher education. Rated among the most outstanding regional universities for its academics. Top of the charts in Division III for its athletics. A truly national success story.

Now, Barbara Gitenstein has the opportunity to stamp her imprint on the future of this institution.

When she agreed to take this job, I had the chance to sit down with Barbara and talk about her expectations and aspirations. I came away from that conversation convinced that The College of New Jersey is in very good hands.

I know that she is excited to work in a climate that welcomes strong leadership on the campus level.

I know she is already working hard to build a bright future for this college as it approaches the century-and-a-half mark of its history.

And I know we will count on her, along with a gifted faculty and a hard-working staff, to continue providing thousands of New Jersey students with the outstanding education that has become a hallmark of this campus.

The State of New Jersey takes great pride in The College of New Jersey, and on behalf of all our citizens, I wish President Barbara Gitenstein my very best on this solemn and historic occasion.

Thank you.

